THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R. L. BHATIA): (a) Yes Sir, two Indian Rotarians from Tamil Nadu, visiting Sri Lanka to attend a Rotary Conference, were taken away by the Sri Lanka police on 13-2-95.

(b) Two Indian nationals, namely, (i) Shri Subramaniam Rajasekharan aged 52 years,, resident of 38A, Anna Nagar, Madurai; and (ii) Shri Arunachalam Gopinath, aged 33 years, resident of 197A East Market Madurai—1 were detained by Sri Lanka Police (Tourist Police of Fort PS, Colombo) on 13.2.95 at about 1805 hours on suspicion when they were reportedly taking pictures of the Presidential Secretariat at Galle Face Green, a prohibited place for photography. They were released on the same day at about 1940 hours their bonafides were established.

Threat due to missile tech sale on China

1297. SHRI G. Y. KRISHNAN: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been invited to the news item captioned "Missile tech sale to China a threat to India" appearing in 'The Observer of Business and Politics', New Delhi dated February 22, 1995.

(b) if so, the facts of the matter reported therein, as gathered by Government; and

(c) the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R. L. BHATIA): (a) and (b) Government have seen the news report in question that the sale of US Garret engine technology to China is likely to provide it with the technological know how to make engines for long range cruise missiles.

(c) Government keep under constant review all developments having a bearing on India's security and take appropriate measures to safeguard the national interest.

Raising of funds by Hurriyat leaders in Saudi Arabia

1298. SHRI VIREN J. SHAH:
SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the report published in the Pioneer of January 16, 1995 under the caption "Hurriyat leaders raising funds in Saudi";

(b) if so, what are the facts in this regard and for what purpose they have collected funds from abroad;

(c) what effective steps Government have taken or propose to take to combat such activities of militant outfits in foreign countries;

(d) whether Government have received any reports from our Missions abroad about the anti-national activities of these persons and also about the funds collected by them: if so, what are the details in this regard; and

(e) what action Government have taken or propose to take in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R. L. BHATIA): (a) Government have seen the media report.

(b) to (e) The All Party Hurriyat Conference leaders, Mirwaiz Umar Farooq and Maulana Abbas Ansari travelled out of the country in their individual capacities during the months from December 1994 to February 1995.

Government have reports to the effect that, during their visit abroad, they have expressed views on Jammu and Kashmir which have no relation to the ground reality, and that they have even raised some funds.

Government would take all steps necessary to fight militancy in Jammu and Kashmir, to counter anti-India propaganda, and would remain vigilant on the support, financial or material, extended from Pakistan or from any other outside quarters in sustenance of activities directed against the unity and integrity of the country. Government constantly endeavour to project to the international community the situation in Jammu and Kashmir in its true perspective.

Indo-Japan talks on expansion of Security Council

1299. DR. B. B. DUTTA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether India and Japan held bilateral consultations on reforms and restructuring of the United Nations, including expansion of the Security Council;

(b) if so, the stand taken by India on this issue; and

(c) what were the results of these talks?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R. L. BHATIA): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) India took the stand that the expansion of the Security Council should be in accordance with criteria to be agreed upon by consensus. Reform and expansion should be an integral part of a common package. It was neither feasible nor desirable to place arbitrary time limits on the restructuring exercise.

(c) India and Japan have decided to continue consultations with a view to carrying forward the restructuring exercise.

Discriminatory treaty to India by Amnesty International

1300. SHRIMATI KAMLA SINHA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news report appeared in the Statesman, Delhi dated the 23rd February, 1995, captioned "Amnesty comes down hard on India, mollycoddles Pakistan";

(b) if so, what are the details of the matter;

(c) what further diplomatic initiatives, if any, have been taken by Government to prevent such discriminatory treatment to India by the Amnesty International?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R. L. BHATIA): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) and (c) Amnesty International from time to time brings out reports on different aspects of the human rights situations in various countries including India and Pakistan. Government's interaction with Amnesty International has been in keeping with its policy of transparency and dialogue. However, persisting distortions in Amnesty's methodology, and attitude to India as reflected in their reports, have raised a number of questions. The government of India has taken these up with Amenesty international and has also apprised the international community.

Captivation of Indian Fishermen by Sri Lankan Navy

1301. SHRI V. GOPALSAMY: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that twenty-two fishermen who went into sea from Dhanushkodi on the 13th February, 1995 were taken into custody by Sri Lankan Navy; if so, the details of the incident;

(b) whether Government took up this matter with Sri Lankan Government; if so, the details thereof;

(c) what has been response of the Government of Sri Lanka;

(d) what steps are being taken to repatriate these fishermen and to get their fishing boats released.